IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 32, 40, 41, 43, 51, 54, 58, 63, 67, and 72, as set forth below. The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings.

1-31. (Canceled).

32. (Currently amended)   A device for monitoring and identifying a vehicle in at least one parking zone, the device including a single ~~housing shaped and dimensioned to be~~ hand-held unit, the unit containing ~~within which is housed~~:

input means for feeding input identification particulars of a vehicle in a parking zone into the device;

communication means for receiving reference identification particulars of vehicles communicated from a remote station to the device;

storage means for storing said reference identification particulars;

timing means for timing the duration for which the vehicle is parked in the parking zone;

processor means connected to the input means and to the storage means, the processor means including comparator means for comparing the input identification particulars with the reference identification particulars, the processor means being operable to calculate a monetary amount due for parking for said duration in the parking zone so that the device functions as a parking meter;

signal generation means for selectively generating a warning signal in response to said comparison;

display means for displaying the monetary amount due; and

monetary receiving means for receiving the monetary amount due.

33. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, in which the monetary receiving means includes card reading means for reading information stored on a card and feeding it to the processor means for processing payment electronically.

34. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, in which the processor means defines the timing means.

35. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, in which the identification particulars are displayed in the display means.

36. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, which includes a printer for printing a hard-copy of selected data.

37. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, in which the input means includes a keypad via which the identification particulars of the vehicle and the parking zone are manually entered.

38. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, which the input means includes a reader capable of reading in a wireless fashion a tag device in or on the vehicle, the tag device carrying the said identification particulars of the vehicle.

39. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, in which the communication means is a wireless communication link.

40. (Currently amended)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, ~~which includes~~ further comprising enabling means for selectively enabling the device.

41. (Currently amended)   A device as claimed in Claim 40, in which the enabling means is defined by processor means and the input means in such a fashion so that upon entry of a correct PIN number the device is enabled.

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42. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 32, in which the reference identification particulars are reference identification particulars of stolen vehicles.

43. (Currently amended)   A device for monitoring and identifying a vehicle in at least one parking zone, the device including a single ~~housing shaped and dimensioned to be~~ hand-held unit, the unit containing ~~within which is housed~~:

input means for feeding input identification particulars of a vehicle in a parking zone into the device;

communication means for sending the input identification particulars to a remote station and for receiving the result of a comparison performed at the remote station between the input identification and the reference identification particulars in order to identify the vehicle;

signal generation means for selectively generating a warning signal in response to said result;

timing means for timing the duration for which the vehicle is parked in the parking zone;

processor means for calculating a monetary amount due for parking for said duration in the parking zone;

display means for displaying the monetary amount due; and

monetary receiving means for receiving the monetary amount due.

44. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 43, in which the monetary receiving means includes card reading means for reading information stored on a card and feeding it to the processor means for processing payment electronically.

45. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 43, in which the processor means defines the timing means.

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46. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 43, in which the identification particulars are displayed on the display means.

47. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 43, which includes a printer for printing a hard-copy of selected data.

48. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 43, in which the input means includes a keypad via which the identification particulars of the vehicle and the parking zone are manually entered.

49. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 43, in which the input means includes a reader capable of reading in a wireless fashion a tag device in or on the vehicle, the tag device carrying the said identification particulars of a vehicle.

50. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claims 43, in which the communication means is a wireless communication link.

51. (Currently amended)   A device as claimed in Claim 43, ~~which includes~~ further comprising enabling means for selectively enabling the device.

52. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 51, in which the enabling means is defined by processor means and the input means in such a fashion so that upon entry of a correct PIN number the device is enabled.

53. (Previously presented)   A device as claimed in Claim 43, in which the reference identification particulars are reference identification particulars of stolen vehicles.

54. (Currently amended)   A system for monitoring and identifying vehicles in a plurality of parking zones, the system including

a remote station at which reference identification particulars of vehicles are stored; and

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at least one device for identifying a vehicle parked in one of a plurality of parking zones with which the device is associated, the device including a <u>single</u> ~~housing shaped and dimensioned to be~~ hand-held <u>unit, the unit containing</u> ~~within which is housed~~:

input means for freeing input identification particulars of a vehicle parked in a parking zone into the device;

communication means for sending the input identification particulars to the remote station for comparison with the reference identification particulars and receiving the result of said comparison;

signal generation means for selectively generating a warning signal in response to said result;

timing means for timing the duration for which the vehicle is parked in the parking zone;

processor means for calculating a monetary amount due for parking for said duration in the parking zone;

display means for displaying the monetary amount due; and

monetary receiving means for receiving the monetary amount due.

55. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 54, in which the communication means is a wireless communication means.

56. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 54, in which the monetary receiving means includes card reading means for reading information stored on a card and feeding it to the processor means for processing payment electronically.

57. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 54 in which the input means includes a reader capable of reading a tag device hidden in or on the vehicle in a wireless fashion, the tag device carrying the said identification particulars of the vehicle.

58. (Currently amended)   A system as claimed in Claim 54, ~~which includes~~ <u>further</u> <u>comprising</u> a control ~~centre~~ <u>center</u> and a plurality of remoter stations at remote locations associated with parking zones, each remote station being in communication with the control ~~centre~~ <u>center</u> via a telecommunication network to receive reference identification particulars and each device being in wireless communication with an associated remote station.

59. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 58, in which the telecommunication network is a cellular telephone network.

60. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 59, in which the reference identification particulars are downloaded by means of SMS messaging.

61. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 58, in which the telecommunication network includes the Internet.

62. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 54, in which the remote station includes alternate communication means for communicating with other databases.

63. (Currently amended)   A system for monitoring and identifying vehicles in a plurality of parking zones, the system including

a remote station at which reference identification particulars of vehicles are stored;

at least one device for identifying a vehicle parked in one of a plurality of parking zones with which the device is associated, the device including a <u>single</u> ~~housing shaped and~~ ~~dimensioned to be~~ hand-held <u>unit, the unit containing</u> ~~within which is housed~~:

input means for feeing input identification particulars of a vehicle in a parking zone into the device;

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communication means for receiving the reference identification particulars from the remote station;

storage means for storing said reference identification particulars;

timing means for timing the duration for which the vehicle is parked in the parking zone;

processor means connected to the input means and to the storage means, the processor means including comparator means for comparing the input identification particulars with the reference identification particulars, the processor means being operable to calculate a monetary amount due for parking for said duration in the parking zone so that the device functions as a parking meter;

signal generation means for selectively generating a warning signal in response to said comparison;

display means for displaying the monetary amount due; and

monetary receiving means for receiving the monetary amount due.

64. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 63, in which the communications means is a wireless communication means.

65. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 63, in which the monetary receiving means includes card reading means for reading information stored on a card and feeding it to the processor means for processing payment electronically.

66. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 63, in which the input means includes a reader capable of reading a tag device hidden in or on the vehicle in a wireless fashion, the tag device carrying the said identification particulars of the vehicle.

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67. (Currently amended)   A system as claimed in Claim 63, ~~which includes~~ <u>further</u> <u>comprising</u> a control ~~centre~~ <u>center</u> and a plurality of remote stations at remote locations associated with parking zones, each remote station being in communication with the control ~~centre~~ <u>center</u> via a telecommunication network to receive reference identification particulars and each device being in wireless communication with an associated remote station.

68. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 67, in which the telecommunication network is a cellular telephone network.

69. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 68, in which the reference identification particulars are downloaded by means of SMS messaging.

70. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 67, in which the telecommunication network includes the Internet.

71. (Previously presented)   A system as claimed in Claim 63, in which the remote station includes alternate communication means for communicating with other databases.

72. (Currently amended)   A method of monitoring and identifying a vehicle in a parking zone, the method including

feeding identification particulars of a vehicle in a parking zone into a <u>single unit</u> hand-held device;

transmitting the identification particulars to a remote station;

comparing said identification particulars of the vehicle in the parking zone with reference identification particulars at the remote station;

selectively generating a warning signal in response to the comparison;

timing the duration for which the vehicle is parked in the parking zone;

calculating a monetary amount due for the said duration; and

receiving said monetary amount due with a monetary receiving means housed in the hand-held device.

73. (Previously presented)   A method as claimed in Claim 72, in which the reference identification particulars are the identification particulars of stolen vehicles.

74. (Previously presented)   A method as claimed in Claim 72, in which a database for storing reference identification particulars of vehicles is provided in the device and the method includes updating the database periodically with reference identification particulars from the remote station in a wireless fashion.